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Marc V. Richards, Reg. No. 37,921

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Marc V. Richards

Signature

2-24-03

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10522/38

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Tom L. Young et al.

Serial No.: 09/762,619

U.S. Filing Date: February 9, 2001

International Filing Date: August 9, 1999

For: FLOTATION OF SULFIDE
MINERAL SPECIES WITH OILS

Examiner: Thomas M. Lithgow

Group Art Unit No.: 1724

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed on
September 26, 2002, Applicants request entry of the following preliminary amendment

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and provisionally elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-24, drawn to a flotation method. Applicants further provisionally elect the species of "Natural Oils." These elections are made with traverse as explained in the remarks below. This Response is submitted with a Petition for Extension of Time and check as payment for the appropriate petition fee.

The Examiner is kindly requested to enter the preliminary amendment shown on the following pages.